

Message Text

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17/54

ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-04

RSC-01 USIA-15 PRS-01 SP-03 DRC-01 /048 W

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R 011351Z APR 74

FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3472

INFO AMCONSUL ADANA

AMCONSUL ISTANBUL

AMCONSUL IZMIR

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE ANKARA 2447

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (TEXT)

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, TU

SUBJECT: PRIME MINISTER ECEVIT SPEAKS TO RESERVE OFFICER CLASS

1. PRIME MINISTER BULENT ECEVIT, WHO WHILE IN OPPOSITION HAD STRONGLY CRITICIZED THE MILITARY'S 1971-73 INTERVENTION IN GOVERNMENT, ON MARCH 30 SPOKE TO THE GRADUATING CLASS OF RESERVE OFFICERS AT THE ARMORED UNIT SCHOOL IN ETIMESGUT (NEAR ANKARA). APPEARING WITH ECEVIT WERE CHIEF OF THE TURKISH GENERAL STAFF SEMIH SANCAR, GROUND FORCES COMMANDER ESREF AKINCI, AND DEFENSE MINISTER HASAN ISIK, ACCORDING TO THE PRESS.

2. IN HIS SPEECH, ECEVIT REPORTEDLY SAID: " OUR ARMY IS THE GUARANTOR OF THE INDEPENDENCE AND SOVEREIGNTY OF THE TURKISH NATION, WHICH HAS LIVED INDEPENDENTLY THROUGHOUT HISTORY." (THE STRESS ON "INDEPENDENCE" IS CONSISTENT WITH ECEVIT'S PARTY PLATFORM STATEMENTS ON FOREIGN POLICY.)

3. COMMENT: ECEVIT'S APPEARANCE (WHICH RECEIVED WIDE COVERAGE ON TURKISH TV AND RADIO) WAS NOT WITHOUT PRECEDENT, BUT SUCH AN OCCASION IS NORMALLY ADDRESSED ONLY BY A LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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FORCE COMMANDER AND THE SCHOOL'S COMMANDANT. MORE THAN THE

SUBSTANCE OF HIS REMARKS, THE FACT OF ECEVIT'S APPEARANCE.
IN THE COMPANY OF SUCH HIGH-LEVEL MILITARY PRESENTATION,
CONVEYED THE IMPRESSION OF GOOD RELATIONS BETWEEN THE NEW
GOVERNMENT AND THE TURKISH MILITARY.
MACOM

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Draft Date: 01 APR 1974
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Disposition Approved on Date:
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Disposition History: n/a
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Disposition Remarks:
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Handling Restrictions: n/a
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30 JUN 2005

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TAGS: PINT, MILI, TU, (ECEVIT, BULENT)
To: STATE
Type: TE
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